The reasons for shortfall in crude oil production are:—

(i) Oil fields are entering the natural declining phase.

(ii) Reduction in anticipated production from Mumbai High, Neelam and Gandhar oil fields due to large number of wells flowing with High Gas Oil Ratio and with increasing water cut.

(iii) Constraints in operating conditions in the North-Eastern region.

(iv) Shortage of power in the Eastern and western region of the country affecting the operation of the artificial lift system.

Delay in the Formation of DSB

2412. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are delaying the formation of Dealer Selection Boards (DSB) in the country for petroleum and LPG products;

(b) the reasons for such delay;

(c) the number of DSBs to be formed in the country;

(d) the geographical jurisdictions of each such Board and basis of selection of Members to these boards; and

(e) the target for the year 2000-2001 for expansion of the existing network of LPG and petroleum outlet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) The process of reconstitution of Dealer Selection Boards is on, which inter-alia includes their composition, jurisdication, etc.

(e) In addition to the locations pending from the previous Marketing Plans, 927 retail outlet dealerships, 2078 LPG distributorships and 155 SKO/LDC dealerships have been included in the current Marketing Plans 1996-98. Locations included in the marketing plans are advertised by the oil marketing companies for selection of dealers/distributors through the Dealer Selection Boards. It generally takes about 6-12 months for commissioning of the dealerships/distributorships from the date of interview.